UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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(RLA/72/069)
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ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF ARGENTINA, BARBADOS, BRAZIL, CHILE, CUBA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, HAITI, HONDURAS, MEXICO, PANAMA, PERU, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND URUGUAY

IMCO Regional Maritime Adviser for Latin America
(Supplementary Assistance) (RLA/72/069)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	June 1978
Starting date of project activities:	January 1975 (Including previous assistance)
Planned completion date:	June 1980
To be executed by:	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO)
Government implementing agency:	Ministries responsible for shipping in the countries concerned
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$ 294 700
Source of UNDP financing:	Regional Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The international development strategy adopted by the United Nations General Assembly for the second United Nations Development Decade calls for action to ensure that the national shipping lines of developing countries "have an increasing and substantial participation in the carriage of cargoes generated by foreign trade."

2. Most of the trade of the region is seaborne and national participation in this trade with the rest of the world is currently very limited. It is recognized that foreign trade is essential to the rapid economic development of Latin American countries. Transport integration on a regional basis is therefore essential as has been repeatedly recognized by the countries of the region. The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) has carried out a number of studies in the transport sector including shipping, with special emphasis on the economic aspects. The IMCO input, dealing with the technical aspects of maritime transport, will therefore be complementary to the ECLA studies.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost-sharing).

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3. The need, therefore, for developing adequate maritime expertise within Latin American countries to provide competent personnel for manning different segments of maritime activity is obvious. Such expertise can be developed only through well-organized modern training facilities. Such training facilities are required not only for sea-going personnel (navigating officers, marine engineering officers and radio officers) but also for shore-based technical personnel dealing with maritime administration, port and harbour administration, docks management, piloting and also the shore-based managerial staff attached to shipping companies. In January 1975 UNDP approved assistance to the present project providing a Regional Adviser who was appointed in August 1975 and based in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As a result of the previous assistance, in-depth studies of the maritime sector's general needs, endeavouring also to assist the Governments in the preparation of specific technical assistance requests, have been done. In order to improve their training facilities, the Governments have requested an extension of UNDP assistance.

II. Objectives and activities

4. The immediate objectives of the project are to identify the immediate maritime needs of the participating countries and assist them in achieving the desired objectives, namely: (a) a quantative estimation of the number of posts to be filled by national personnel, including posts to be created as a result of the expansion of national shipping fleets, and of the maritime administration; (b) a qualitative assessment of the standard of training required for the most important posts; and (c) assistance to countries which are in the process of building up their national merchant fleets and maritime and harbour administrations and which have limited facilities for the training of maritime personnel.

III. Inputs

5. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, the services of a regional maritime adviser, one adviser and one assistant on marine pollution and an adviser on marine safety.

6. The host Governments will provide supporting facilities which will include office accomodation, secretarial assistance and telephone facilities directly to the project.

IV. Financial data

7. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	Previously approved $	Present approval $	Total approved $
Personnel	363 500	291 300	654 700
Miscellaneous	3 300	3 400	6 800
	366 800	294 700	661 500

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